

8309 Split Rail Lane
Bayonet Point
Florida 34667
January 23, 2001

My letter is in regard to Docket Number 98P-0151/CP1 and to urge the Food and Drug Administration to grant petition 98P-0151/CP1 to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals.

Animals too sick or injured even to stand should not be allowed to enter the human food chain. In addition to posing an increased risk for bacterial contamination there is evidence that some downed animals may be afflicted with "Mad Cow Disease," a disease which has been linked to the fatal human illness Creutzfeld-Jacob Disease.

Downed animals can not be moved humanely, and they experience terrible suffering being pushed with tractors or dragged with chains. This inhumane process should end.

These injured animals comprise a very small percentage of animals slaughtered, and prohibiting the marketing of downed animals will cause no undue hardship economically. Removing the market for downed animals will provide an incentive to industry to prevent downed animals in the first place.

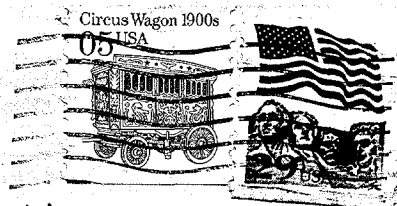
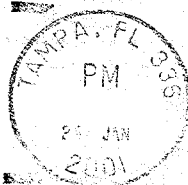
Yours truly

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98P-0151

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